GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3963
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2001
HINDI MONITORING UNITS
DINESH CHANDRA YADAV;SUKDEO PASWAN

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindi Monitoring Unit has been recently set up in the News Service Division, AIR;

(b) if so, the number of Hindi broadcasts of foreign countries being monitored alongwith the broadcasting time;

(c) whether such significant broadcasting organizations as BBC, Voice of America, broadcastHindi bulletins and these are not being monitored;

(d) if so, the efforts being made for strengthening the Hindi Monitoring Unit;

(e) whether Committee was constituted in the news service division on the suggestions given byseveral VIPs and Members of Parliament for increasing the number of reporters in Hindi Monitoring Unit; and

(f) if so, the action taken by the Prasar Bharati on the suggestions given by the Committee?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a): A Hindi Monitoring Unit was set up in the News Services Division, AIR on 19.09.1996with the primary purpose of strengthening news gathering.

(b) & (c): The details of Hindi bulletins monitored by the Unit are as follows:

Voice of America	0600 - 0630 hrs.
BBC	0630 - 0700 hrs.
BBC	1930 - 2000 hrs.
Radio `Roos`	1830 - 1900 hrs.

(d): At present, there is no proposal to strengthen this Monitoring Unit

(e) & (f): The Committee constituted to study the need for expanding the unit did not recommend creation of additional posts of reporters.